House Resolution No. 4693

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State couples who have admirably dedicated themselves to community betterment through the contribution of significant amounts of time, energy, and leadership; and

Whereas, Frank R. and Olive L. Kirkland are the honored recipients of a Commerce Bank Community Service Award given in light of their active participation in numerous community initiatives designed to improve and beautify the north St. Louis community of Penrose; and

Whereas, residents of Penrose since 1960, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland established their home in north St. Louis fifty years ago after engaging in a six year "long distance" marriage in which Frank Kirkland traveled with the Missouri Pacific Railroad and Olive Kirkland worked for Southwestern Bell in her hometown of Omaha, Nebraska; and

Whereas, married in 1948, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland eventually retired from their vocational pursuits and turned their focus to the Penrose neighborhood through such organizations as the Penrose Self-Reliant Neighborhood Association and Cote Brilliante Presbyterian Church; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland are lifetime members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and leaders with the Local 354 railroad union for which Frank has served as General Chairman and Olive has worked with eleven other women to raise money for a scholarship fund to provide four-year financial assistance to "average" students who otherwise could not afford to attend college; and

Whereas, the Commerce Bank Community Service Award contains a grant from the William T. Kemper and Commerce Bancshares foundations which will be used in the name of Frank and Olive Kirkland by the Cote Brilliante Presbyterian Church Holy Ground Project:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of Frank and Olive Kirkland for a 2003 Commerce Bank Community Service Award and to convey to them this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes that the accompanying William T. Kemper and Commerce Bancshares foundations grant will truly make a positive difference in the neighborhood redevelopment efforts taking place through the Cote Brilliante Presbyterian Church's Holy Ground Project; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Frank R. and Olive L. Kirkland of St. Louis, Missouri.

Representative Amber (Holly) Boykins
District No. 60
I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of
Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First
Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and
correct copy of House Resolution No. 4693, adopted
November 18, 2003.

Offered by _____